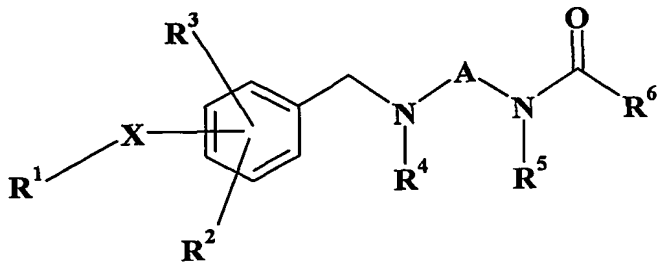
CLAIMS

1. A compound of general formula **I**



I

wherein

A is a straight or branched C_2-C_8 alkyl chain;

X is a methylene, oxygen, sulphur or a NR^7 group;

$\mathbf{R_1}$ is a straight or branched C_1-C_8 alkyl or C_3-C_8 alkenylene or C_3-C_8 alkynylene chain, optionally substituted with CF_3, phenyl, phenoxy or naphthyl, the aromatic rings optionally substituted by one or more C_1-C_4 alkyl, halogens, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy or C_1-C_4 alkoxy groups;

$\mathbf{R^2}$, $\mathbf{R^3}$ are independently hydrogen, a C_1-C_3 alkyl chain, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy or C_1-C_4 alkoxy groups;

$\mathbf{R^4}$, $\mathbf{R^5}$ are independently hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

$\mathbf{R^6}$ is a hydrogen or a straight or branched C_1-C_8 alkyl or linked ~~to~~ R^5 ~~can form a~~ five to seven membered lactam;

$\mathbf{R^7}$ is hydrogen or C_1-C_6 alkyl;

and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, with the proviso that when A is $-CH_2CH_2-$, R^1-X is ortho-benzylthio, R^2, R^3 and R^5 are hydrogen and R^6 methyl, R^4 is other than hydrogen or methyl;

when A is $-CH_2CH_2-$, R^1-X 4-methoxy, R^2 2-methoxy, R^3 and R^5 hydrogen and R^6 methyl, R^4 is other than hydrogen, and

when A is $-CH_2CH_2-$, R^1-X 3-methoxy, R^2 5-methoxy, R^3 and R^5 hydrogen and R^6 methyl, R^4 is other than hydrogen.

2. A compound of general formula **I** as defined in claim 1, where A is ethylene or propylene, X is oxygen, methylene, NH or NCH_3, R^1 is C_1-C_8 alkyl chain, optionally substituted with CF_3, phenyl or phenoxy group, where the aromatic ring in R^1 is optionally substituted by one or two methoxy, fluoro, chloro or trifluoromethyl groups, R^2 and R^3 are hydrogen, methyl, methoxy, fluorine, chlorine or bromine, R^4 and R^5 are hydrogen or methyl, R^6 is methyl or ethyl or linked to R^5 form a five or six membered lactam.

3. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

N-2-(4-Butyloxy-benzylamino)-ethyl-acetamide;

N-2-[4-(4-triFluorobutyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl-acetamide;

N-2-(4-Pentyloxy-benzylamino)-ethyl-acetamide;

N-2-[4-(5-triFluoropentyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl-acetamide;

N-2-(2-Benzyloxy-benzylamino)-ethyl-acetamide;

N-2-(3-Benzyloxy-benzylamino)-ethyl-acetamide;

N-2-(4-Benzyloxy-benzylamino)-ethyl-acetamide;

N-2-[4-(5-Phenyl-pentyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl-acetamide;

N-2-[4-(2-Phenethyl)-benzylamino]-ethyl-acetamide;

N-{2-[2-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-{2-[3-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-2-methoxy-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-2-methyl-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-fluoro-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-chloro-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-methoxy-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino]-ethyl}-acetamide;

N-3-(4-Pentyloxy-benzylamino)-propyl-acetamide;

N-2-[4-(5-trifluoropentyloxy)-benzylamino]-propyl-acetamide;

N-3-(4-Benzyloxy-benzylamino)-propyl-acetamide;

N-3-[4-(2-Phenethyl)-benzylamino]-propyl-acetamide;

N-3-[4-(5-Phenyl-pentyloxy)-benzylamino]-propyl-acetamide;

N-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-2-methoxy-benzylamino]-propyl}-acetamide;

N-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-2-methyl-benzylamino]-propyl}-acetamide;

N-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-fluoro-benzylamino]-propyl}-acetamide;

N-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-chloro-benzylamino]-propyl}-acetamide;

N-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-methoxy-benzylamino]-propyl}-acetamide;

N-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-propyl}-acetamide;

N-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino]-propyl}-acetamide;

N-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino]-propyl}-acetamide;

N-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino]-propyl}-acetamide;

1-[2-(4-Butyloxy-benzylamino)-ethyl]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{2-[4-(4-triFluorobutyloxy-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-[2-(4-Pentyloxy-benzylamino)-ethyl]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{2-[4-(5-triFluoropentyloxy-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-[2-(2-Benzyloxy-benzylamino)-ethyl]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-[2-(3-Benzyloxy-benzylamino)-ethyl]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-[2-(4-Benzyloxy-benzylamino)-ethyl]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-[2-(4-Benzylthio-benzylamino)-ethyl]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-[2-(4-Benzylamino-benzylamino)-ethyl]-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(5-Phenyl-pentyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(2-Phenoxy-ethoxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(Naphthalen-1-ylmethoxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[2-(3-Fluorobenzyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[3-(3-Fluorobenzyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(3-Fluorobenzyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(4-tert-Butyl-benzyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(4-triFluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(2,6-Dichloro-benzyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(3,5-Dimethoxy-benzyloxy)-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-2-methoxy-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-2-methyl-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-fluoro-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-methoxy-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;
1-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-chloro-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-

2-one;

1-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{2-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{2-[4-(2-fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino]-ethyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-[3-(4-Pentyloxy-benzylamino)-propyl]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-[3-(2-Benzyloxy-benzylamino)-propyl]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-[3-(3-Benzyloxy-benzylamino)-propyl]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-[3-(4-Benzyloxy-benzylamino)-propyl]-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(5-Phenyl-pentyloxy)-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(2-Phenoxy-ethoxy)-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(Naphthalen-1-ylmethoxy)-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(4-tert-Butyl-benzyloxy)-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(4-triFluoromethyl-benzyloxy)-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(2,6-Dichloro-benzyloxy)-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(3,5-Dimethoxy-benzyloxy)-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-2-methoxy-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-2-methyl-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-fluoro-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-methoxy-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-methyl-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-chloro-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3,5-dimethoxy-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

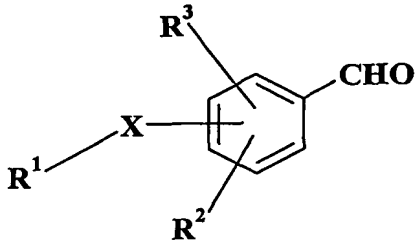
1-{3-[4-(2-Fluoro-benzyloxy)-3,5-dimethyl-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

1-{3-[4-(2-fluoro-benzyloxy)-3-bromo-5-methoxy-benzylamino]-propyl}-pyrrolidin-2-one;

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

4. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula **I**, as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, the process comprising:

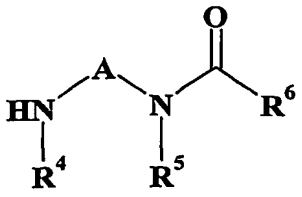
a) reaction of compounds of formula **II**



II

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3 and X are as defined above

with compounds of formula **III**, in the presence of a reducing agent

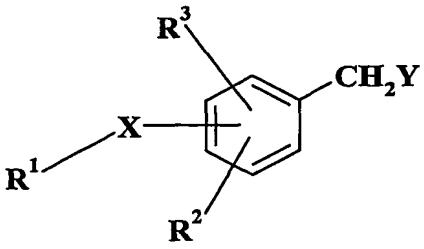


III

wherein R^4, R^5, R^6 and A are as defined previously thus obtaining a

compound of formula **I**; or

b) reaction of compounds of formula **IV**

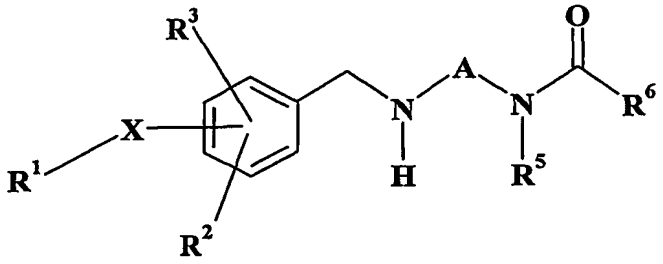


IV

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3 and X are as defined above and Y is a halogen atom or a O-EWG group, where the EWG means an electron withdrawing group, like e.g. mesyl, tosyl or trifluoroacetyl groups, able to transform the oxygen which they are linked to, in a good leaving group

with compounds of formula **III** thus obtaining a compound of formula **I**; or

c) reacting of a compound of formula **Ia**



Ia

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^5 and R^6, X and A are as defined above, with compounds of formula V or VI

R^4Y	R^8CHO
V	**VI**

wherein Y is as defined above; R^4 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl and R^8 is hydrogen or C_1-C_5 alkyl, thus obtaining a compound of the invention in which R^4 is C_1-C_6 alkyl; and, if desired, converting a compound of the invention into

another compound of the invention and/or, if desired, converting a compound of the invention into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt and/or, if desired, converting a salt into a free compound and/or, if desired, separating a mixture of isomers of compounds of the invention into a single isomer.

5. A pharmaceutical composition containing a compound of formula **I**, as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in admixture with a suitable carrier and/or diluent and optionally to other therapeutic agents.

6. A compound of formula **I**, as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use as an active therapeutic substance.

7. The use of a compound of formula **I**, as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the preparation of a medicament having sodium and/or calcium channel modulating activity.